

New Electronic Literature Resources

The NIH Library has expanded electronic access to the literature through its World Wide Web site (<http://libwww.ncrr.nih.gov>). Joining PsycInfo at the site are Biological Abstracts, sometimes called Biosis, and the Excerpta Medica database, Embase. Both databases use search software developed by OVID. To see new database services, simply click on **Electronic Resources**.

Biological Abstracts, available through CD-ROM technology covers journals published from 1993 through December 1995. It is updated every three months. For example, the update including October-December 1995 was available in early February 1996. Similar to Medline, Biological Abstracts covers some 7,000 serial publications, and includes journals not covered in Medline.

While CD-ROM technology makes it possible for the Library to make more databases more widely available to the NIH community, and OVID search software is highly regarded for its ease of access, CD-ROM is less current than on-line versions. The CD-ROM version of Biological Abstracts, moreover, does not include meeting abstracts. If greater currency and meeting ab-

stracts are desirable in a search, the on-line version of Biosis, is available through the Library's Search service (496-1156).

Embase, another biomedical index, covers 3,500 journals and is known especially for its coverage of the drug literature.

Access to the two new databases differ when approached from the Home Page. Once telnet is activated in the users Browser (Netscape, NCSA Mosaic), **Biosis** is engaged by clicking on Electronic Resources, then on a link to the database. A telnet session begins, and a database is selected for searching. The search interface for Biosis is menu-driven.

Access to **Embase** is, initially, slightly more complicated; a locally installed search interface or "client" software is required. The "client" software is for Windows only; a Macintosh and a World Wide Web (see next story in this issue) interface are in development. The client software can be downloaded from the Library's Home Page (<http://libwww.ncrr.nih.gov>). Once at the Home Page click on Electronic Resources first, then Library **Software**. The software installation instructions can be found here as well. All databases made available through OVID, including Embase, Biosis, and Psychological Abstracts can be searched through the "client" software described here.

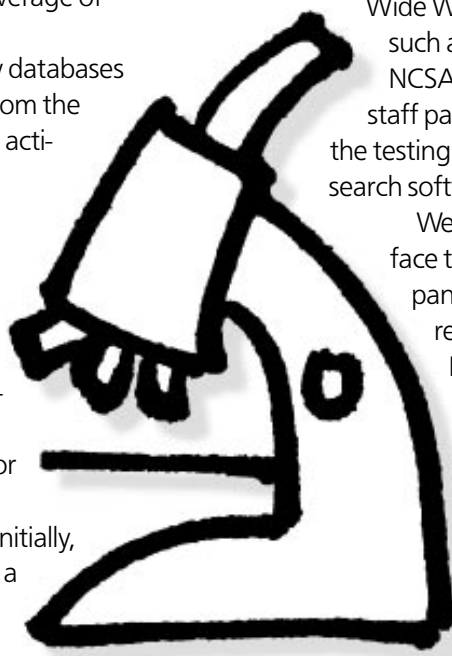
More detailed information on the Library's database services can be obtained by calling 496-1156.

Science Databases Searched on Web

Ovid, a vendor of science databases, beta tested a Web search interface at the NIH in January. Using World

Wide Web browsers such as Netscape or NCSA Mosaic, NIH staff participated in the testing of the new search software.

Web Search Interface test participants found the required NIH Login ID and Password as well as a link to the test site under **Electronic Resources** on the Library's



Home Page (<http://libwww.ncrr.nih.gov>). Participating NIH staff used Browsers that support forms, tables, and graphics.

The databases included in the test were the full files for Aidsline, Bioethicsline, Health (health administration/economics), Medline, Medline (most current week) and PatData (a patent file).

Participants learned of the beta test as members of the NIH Library Listserv (a discussion group that communicates through email). Interested NIH staff can subscribe to the discussion group and learn of new Library resources and services. Instructions for joining are found in the gray box on this page.

Email Notification of New Library Services

NIH staff interested in automatic email notification of Library services may send their email addresses to tallguy@nih.gov.

NIH Library Instruction

February–March 1996

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Introduction to Medline Searching Using Grateful Med

This session presents Grateful Med, an interface to Medline. It helps with the preparation of a search strategy, connects the user to the National Library of Medicine's computer, and runs the search, saving the output for later review.

March

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Navigating the Web of Biomedical Information Sources

The Internet is becoming an increasingly important **research tool**. With many thousands of information sites, the **Internet** is a powerful vehicle for biomedical information retrieval, dissemination and exchange. This session will show par-

Drop-in Sessions for NIH staff take place on Mondays & Thursdays, 12–1 p.m. in the NIH Library, Building 10, Lower Level Training Room. Registration is not required. Questions? Call 496-1156.

ticipants how to locate and make efficient use of some of the Internet's rich **biomedical information sites**. Both the presentation and printed materials will provide **practical, basic tools for productive Internet use**.

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Friday 7:45 a.m.–6:00 p.m.
Saturday 8:30 a.m.–6:00 p.m.
Sun & Hol 1:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m.

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TRANSLATIONS 496-2257

On some holidays, hours are 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (announced in advance)

NIH LIBRARY NEWS ON THE WEB:
<http://libwww.ncrr.nih.gov/>